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Thursday

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The Observer

SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE • Rensselaer, Indiana

Dorm security nears a long awaited resolution

by Cindy Aubuchon

Dorm security has been a hot topic on campus for some time now. On November 15, 1995, members of the Student Life Committee met to discuss recommendations from the Student Senate concerning the Managed Key/Escort/Visitation Policy.

First, the Student Senate proposed that "no 24-hour lockdown of the residence halls on campus be imposed." This recommendation was passed by the Student Life committee unanimously.

Second, the Student Senate proposed to the faculty and administration "that, within the framework of the managed key system, all residence hall exterior doors should be locked on weekdays and weekends during non-visitation hours." This

proposal, too, passed unanimously.

Third, with regards to the second recommendation, the Student Senate proposed that the exterior doors of Justin Hall and Halas Hall be locked from the end of visitation hours until 7 p.m. the next day, opening from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

However, Halas residents were opposed to this recommendation arguing that all members of campus, regardless of gender, be treated equally. In response, the Student Life Committee passed the following motion which would amend the proposal given by the Student Senate: "Individual dorm units may extend the Managed Key System hours by: A. A majority

vote where a quorum of the dorm residents are present; B. Approval of the Student Life Committee; and C. Approval of the Student Affairs Office." Also, the dorm governors are responsible for making a reasonable effort to ensure that all residents of their dorm are adequately informed and able to attend the voting proceedings.

Finally, the Student Senate recommended that no uniform campus escort policy be implemented with the Managed Key System. The students would be responsible for making up their own escort systems in each dorm, which would have to be approved by a quorum of the residents, approved by a majority of votes, and pass the approval of the Faculty Committee on Student Life and the

Student Affairs Office. This recommendation passed the Student Life Committee with a majority vote.

SA President Eric McKeown commented, "I support some form of increased security in the residence halls, due to two separate incidents that have demonstrated the inadequacy of the present system, and due to the need for the school to address its legal liability on the issue. I think that the issue needs to be addressed, and the Student Senate has taken steps to remedy the problem."

McKeown commented on the issue of dorm security and the recommendations made by the Faculty Committee on Student Life, stating, "I think that both proposals are improvements

upon the present system that will help to address the problem at hand. When I came into office, I was quite reluctant to vote for increased security in any of the residence halls, since this necessarily means a reduction in student freedom. However, confronted with the facts of the two peeping incidents, I cannot deny that our present level of security seems to be inadequate. The two incidents that have taken place should serve as a warning to the school, so that we can prevent the occurrence of any more serious incidents. Further, the legal liability of the school, due to the formal Student Senate complaint from 1994-95, only strengthens the need for some action. I think that

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College seal evokes pride

by Erin Breetzke

As can be seen inside the entrance of the Core building, the Saint Joseph's College seal has been roped off to set it off from its surroundings. This decision was prompted by issues of both respect and tradition.

After observing many people walking over the seal, the decision came down to set it off from its surroundings.

"It was Dr. Parker's decision to put up the ropes to set off the seal as a respected and symbolic place on campus," Dr. Albert Shannon, President of Saint Joseph's explained. "We have a lot of visitors (tours, admissions, discover days) who may not have understood that we are not going to walk on the seal out of respect," he went on to add.

Separating the seal from its surroundings, yet integrating it into life on campus, was viewed as highly important. This develops pride and tradition among the students, and gives them a place that stands out among all others.

"I don't want this to be a big time administrative rule. I want students to be able to integrate it and feel some pride," Dr. Shannon explained.

"The value of ritual, the value of tradition isn't something you can teach in the classroom," Dr. Shannon commented. "We wanted a space to allow the current students to be able to create such a tradition," he added.

"It's symbolic and represents our very nature," Dr. Shannon commented.

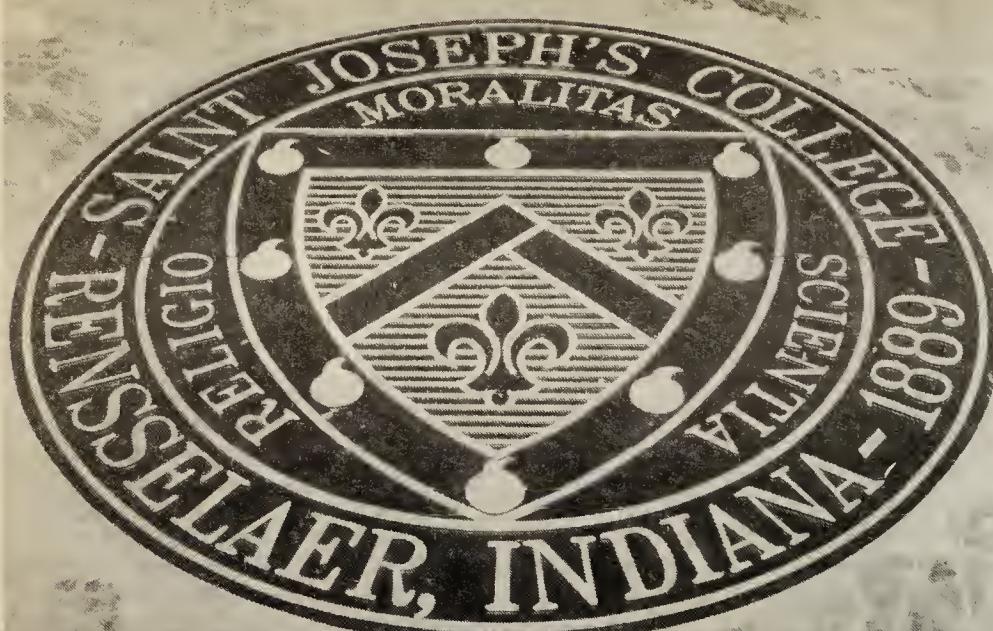


Photo by Rachel Hempel

Saint Joseph's College seal was placed in the main entrance of the Rev. Charles Banet, C.P.P.S. Core Education Facility. The seal was specially cast for the College.

STUFF enters SJC history

As you may already have noticed the name of our College newspaper has been changed. Our new name is *The Observer*. The Editorial Board decided that *STUFF* was not an appropriate name for a college publication.

One might think since our newspaper has been in existence since 1894, a name change would be breaking tradition. But, the name has, in fact, been changed several times since the newspaper was founded. The College paper has been called the *Collegian*, *Diamond Dust*, *College Cheer* and most recently, *STUFF*.

The name *STUFF* appeared as SJC was developing into a senior college, offering four year degrees. The name *STUFF*, according to the first *STUFF* editorial by the first editor-in-chief, Robert Kaple, was chosen because the word stuff

represented: "...stuff is raw material to be worked up into something else. The raw material of our minds and souls is being turned to the making of a finished product." However, half a century later, the word "stuff" has a different connotation. Today, the meaning of stuff is, "a frivolous mixture of matter; a smattering of information, nothing but the superficial."

We, the Editors decided that it was time for a change. We wanted to come up with a name, that when you hear it, you will know it is a newspaper. We have been working hard all year on improving the paper as a whole and we feel that the name change is one of our best improvements. *STUFF* is no longer a name we can take pride in and we hope the new name will reflect the new pride we have in the student newspaper.

--The Editors

Letter to the Editor

I am writing this opinion in response to the SA Presidential/Vice Presidential Debates I attended this past Sunday. I know this will not change people's votes since the election is already over, but I feel the topic should not be ignored. During the debate, there were a few times when SA candidate for President, Mike Alexander, basically said many of the clubs on campus were either non-advertised or simply didn't do anything.

One of these criticisms was directed at the band and their new room located in the basement of the Halleck Center. He felt the band never really even used the room. I know many people who are in the band and they use the room virtually every day. Just because Alexander may not have ventured down to see for himself the use of the band doesn't mean it is unused.

The second time occurred after a question by Klaudia Janek, the Environmental Club's Vice President, concerning the cooperation of the Environmental Club and SA. Alexander went on to say how the problem with the Environmental Club is that they don't publicize enough so over half the campus doesn't even know of their existence and that they don't really do anything anyway to draw any attention to themselves. As a member of the Environmental Club (referred to by Alexander as zealous environmentalists), I was very offended by his comments.

First of all, the Environmental Club publicizes a lot for the small and relatively new group we are. We were at Activities Call Out, put messages on the introduction screens on the computer systems, and hang up signs. Secondly, as far as doing anything, last year we had Earth Week, which was full of events for the campus. Also, we were one of only three groups which had a booth at Little 500. As far as recycling goes, we have added more can recycling bins, instituted a magazine swap, and are trying to work to get a wide spread paper recycling program on campus. Does this seem like the work of a non-advertised, apathetic club?

The thing that bothers me the most is that this comment made by Alexander can be seen to apply to many of the various clubs on campus. The people in these organizations work hard even when there are few of them to do the many jobs it takes to get something of any substance done. I hope this sort of view by Alexander is not the mind-set of the entire campus and people don't feel that we should only be looking out for the sports teams while ignoring everyone else. It should be an equal support where members of the speech team can go see a soccer game and football players can go see a play to support their fellow St. Joseph's "family" in the activities they participate in on campus.

--Matt Owens



Saint Joseph's students-- are we children or adults?

For about the past month we, the students, have been attending class in the new Core Building. I'd have to admit that the classrooms and lecture halls are really nice and definitely state of the art. However, one issue has bothered me, along with many other students, for a while now. This would be the issue of the College seal, located by the main entrance of the Core Building.

I don't have the exact quotes of Dr. Nichols and President Shannon, but their attitude was basically that we should start a new tradition of walking around the College emblem instead of on it. This tradition would be created out of respect and pride for the College.

First of all, I feel a tradition is not created from someone telling you what to do and what not to do. But, I would understand if it was just a simple request I was asked to comply with. I didn't think it would be too difficult to merely walk around a fancy tile. Plus, I would feel bad walking on something which looked that expensive. So, for the first week or so of attending classes in the Core Building, I walked around the College emblem.

Then one day, I walk

through the front entrance and noticed that the College seal had been roped off (it was roped off for some campus events, but the events are over and the ropes are still up). Then, in addition to being personally offended, I realized that the Administration must not consider us to be adults, willing to comply with a simple request to start a new tradition. Instead, they are treating us like children and forbidding us to walk on the College seal. There went my respect and pride, roped off from the school...just like the emblem. Now, when I walk past that roped off area, I just want to jump in the middle and stomp all over the College seal—just because it's forbidden. Of course, this isn't very adult-like behavior, but if the Administration perceives us to be children then their expectations from us are not very high anyways.

If there is any type of new tradition waiting to be established at Saint Joseph's College, the students are the ones who will begin it. A tradition can't be forced on us and I am not about to accept a forced tradition. My pride and respect for the College seal will be restored once the ropes are taken down.

--Klaudia Janek

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Letters must be between 350-500 words. Letters must be signed and include a telephone number. If the author of the letter does not want his/her name used, include a pseudonym to be printed. The Editorial Board can elect not to print a letter that conflicts/violates the newspaper Editorial Policy or College Doctrine. Editors reserve the right to edit letters for length. Letters can be e-mailed to stuff.opinion@students.sjc or delivered to the newspaper office located in the Chapel Basement.

Mock Trial readies for successful year *Dorms continued--*

by Erin Roach

Saint Joseph's Mock Trial Team is anticipating another tough competition. The regional tournament will take place at Purdue on February 10. The team will be competing against approximately ten other schools including Northwestern, Notre Dame University, Purdue, University of Illinois, and Saint Francis.

The Saint Joseph's team consists of twelve to fifteen members who will be lead by captain Mark Sansone and faculty advisor Judge Robert Monfort. There will be nine returning members which will be one advantage for the team. Another advantage is that many of former and new members are also involved in the Columbian Players and the theatre department. This is helpful because many acting skills are required for the portrayals of the plaintiff, defense, and witnesses in the mock trial.

The actual mock trial competition is basically a series of debates that are presented in front of a panel of

judges. There are four different rounds, and the team must portray both the plaintiff and the defense twice. Before the competition begins, the teams are given a list of rules including what evidence is admissible and what objections can be made. They are then judged on how well the rules are adhered to, how well the case is known, how well the case is presented, and how realistic the characters are portrayed.

Every team which participates in the event is given the same script prior to

"With the stiff competition in the Regionals, we'll need everyone to put on their best performance."

the actual competition. Saint Joseph's team is given the script in November, and they have approximately two months to work on it. This adds more to the reality of

the competition because actual lawyers are usually given two months to work on a case.

Although the competition is still nearly two months away, the team is already busy practicing, and the practices will become more demanding as the competition nears. In order to gain some extra practice and experience, the team may even perform at Jasper County's Court House as they did last year. Here they are given helpful advice from people such as Dr. Peter Watkins, Dr. Bill White, Dr. Albert Shannon, and other actual judges.

The advice and practice paid off last year when the team beat Penn State in the regional competition and advanced to Nationals, and they hope that it will pay off this year as well.

Sansone said, "With the stiff competition in the Regionals, we'll need everyone to put on their best performance. We all work well together, and I think we'll be able to teach the newcomers what it is all about."

the proposals from the Student Senate and the Student Life committee are positive, carefully designed plans to address the issue. The implementation of either would receive my support."

Both the Student Senate and the Student Life Committee have issued their final recommendations, but no campus-wide decision finalizing the issue has been come to yet.

When asked when the new system would go into effect, McKeown stated, "It is

unclear when the new system will be implemented because the final details of the new system have not been decided upon yet." McKeown believes, however, that the new system could be decided upon and implemented early next semester.

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Registration causes controversy

by Julia Garcia

From tracking down their advisors to waiting in line registration day, registration week has always been a week dreaded by most SJC students. However, this year's registration process sparked some controversy among students when nine sophomores registered before juniors this past registration.

According to Carol Burns, registrar, "Students are sorted by the computer based on credits earned...students with the same number of credits earned are further sorted by a random factor." Then, "students are scheduled appointments based on the first non-class time available in a time-slot that has not been filled by students with a higher priority based on credits earned," added Burns.

Some sophomores, mostly Bio-Chem majors, could not schedule on Wednesday, November 8th, the assigned day for sophomores, due to labs during the entire period of registration. Usually, students in this situation are "assigned the last registration appointment on the day previous to the day they would normally register," stated Burns. However, the 3:20 pm slot on November 7th was filled with juniors who had classes until 3:15 pm. Since the 3:10 pm slot was only half filled with students, the nine

sophomores were given 3:10 pm appointments.

According to Burns, sophomores and juniors "should not have been in competition for the same Core courses" (usually of most concern to students). Therefore, having sophomores "register on Tuesday at 3:10 pm should not have adversely affected the other 3:10 pm or 3:20 pm scheduled juniors.

According to Mark Sansone, he and other juniors were affected. In fact, there was at least one sophomore who registered for Core 8. "I think that it is a crime when a sophomore can take who he/she wants for Core 8, and I'm stuck with one choice," stated Sansone. "The school should simply not let anyone register before their specifically assigned date...end of story!" stated junior Charles Barrett. According to Vicky Vallone, junior, "It is okay for sophomores to register before juniors as long as they are not taking the same Core classes as we are...the sophomores that I saw were taking spots from juniors in Core 6 and Core 8."

"It's not my fault that I couldn't register on Wednesday due to classes. In any case, I wasn't in competition with juniors for any classes," stated sophomore Sandra Price.

Charitable Society sponsors annual party

by Ashley Pierce

Christmas is coming, and once again it's time for the Gallagher Charitable society's annual Christmas Party for underprivileged children.

The party will be held on Saturday, December 9, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and the entire SJC community is invited to participate. Volunteers to help make this year's party a success are greatly appreciated. Any questions regarding the Christmas party can be directed to Kurt Krouse or Jennifer Townsend.

This year, there is a "giving tree" located in Halleck Center which is deco-

rated with ornaments specifying the needs of area children. Those wishing to purchase a gift for one of these children should take an ornament and return the specified gift with the tag on it to room 248 in the Core building.

Several clubs, businesses, and individuals have made contributions to the party. "We're getting the toys from Wal-Mart—they're giving us a discount," stated Krouse. Several individuals have also bought toys. Father Stang, the society's advisor, has also gotten several contributions, according to Krouse.

The Education Club is also participating in the

Christmas Party. "The Education Club is collecting food items and canned goods for the families," commented Krouse.

The Gallagher Charitable Society is expecting a larger turnout for this year's party. Over 120 people are expected to attend. Of that 120, there will be 90 children, which is an increase over last year's party which had 60 children.

During the party, families are served brunch, which is followed by a visit from Santa Clause. Each child will receive a toy. Also, some members of the SJC band will be performing Christmas music.

Battle of the Sexes: A woman's point of view

by Donna Jean Heitz

As of late, male chauvinism seems to be running rampant. Maybe this is my imagination running wild, or, quite possibly, I have begun to open my eyes to the real world and how things inside of it work.

If you pay attention, you will notice that most positions of authority seem to be filled by men. The Pope is a man. The President of the United States is a man. Top administration positions at Saint Joseph's College are filled primarily by men. The Student Association is predominantly male. Every last one of my professors this semester is... (yep, you guessed it!)... male. You get the picture.

My point? We live in a society which is dominated by men. I refuse to believe that this is the way it should be. But, then I have to ask myself, "Should WOMEN run the world?" No, that fails to do

anything for me, either. Our best bet, I believe, turns out to be compromise.

Unfortunately, with compromise, identifications and changes must be made. Our first identification? MEN AND WOMEN ARE NOT THE SAME. Anyone whose beliefs are contrary to this must have also seen two snowflakes that are identical. Face it — it is impossible. God created human beings as individuals, each one different from the other. God also created the two sexes, each one different from the other. Although men and women are not the same, this is not to say that one sex is more superior than the other. In fact, the two sexes are more or less complimentary to one another.

Not to make generalizations, but I must to illustrate my next identification: Men dig power. They are the decision-makers. Men have moved

the world, and still do, with their committees and laws and governments. Because men produce testosterone, they have, excuse the phraseology, "the balls" to do what it takes to get things done.

Women's bodies, on the other hand, produce estrogen. Once a month they are consumed by emotions and, according to many, unable to make rational decisions. The rest of the month women are still overcome by anxiety and constantly worry about what Susie said to Jane about her best friend's sweetheart. So women are emotional basket cases, right?

Wrong. Take a harder look and you will see that women are the thinkers of society. They want to know how things make people feel and how to make those persons feel better. No one wants to step on anyone else's toes.

The problem with the

world, as I see it, is two-fold. Part One: Men want to maintain power because history has shown us that men belong in power positions. Part Two: Women let them take control because they convince themselves that their voices will not be heard or taken seriously since that is the way it always has been.

Now, let's think for a minute. How can we compromise? Hmm... Women, the thinkers. Men, the doers. Combine the two? You come up with a perfect match. Women, the pleasers. Men, the risk-takers, the responsibility-holders. Combine those two? Another ideal match.

The thinkers of the world should not be afraid to take action because our society is male-dominated. Women, you need to stand up for yourselves. Speak your mind! Why fear a mortal man who, in actuality, has no more

power than you? Your thoughts are worthy of being heard.

Men, stop thinking of your precious pride. Do not remain obstinate. You need not fear the voice of the woman's truth, only listen. She does not want your power and position. She wants justice which is due her.

You two, man and woman, compliment one another. The women think things out from many angles. They want to work things out for the best. The men are not afraid to pick the best option(s) and carry them out. For so long now, it has been what THE MEN want and what THE MEN think is best and what THE MEN do in the end. Now it is time to include women in your committees and laws and governments. In the future, we need to look at what WE want and what WE think is best and what WE want done.

Battle of the Sexes: A man's point of view

by Bradley Gellert

Donna Jean Heitz, wrote an interesting article that made sense, but lacked the density needed to prove to me that women live such unequal lives. She points out that if men and women would quit struggling for power and learn to work together society would be much better off. That is because men and women adequately compliment each other and were designed for different roles! Men have always played their role, but women have become bored with theirs. Perhaps what I state will be very offensive to you and for that I apologize, but if you stop to think about it, maybe you'll see the solution to the problem.

Men and women are the perfect match because they were composed for different, corresponding purposes. Man is traditionally the provider and the woman is the care-taker. In the past, when these roles were more often fulfilled, the family bonding was much stronger and couples actually stayed married rather than fishing for a third or fourth spouse. Of course in our economic times, it is almost a necessity that both of the parents

work in order to provide a worthy standard of living for their family. That's why family bondage today is as thin as St. Joseph's toilet paper. Whether you feminist-right activists believe it or not, families with the women staying at home as care-takers remain more intact and are better off than those families who don't.

Oh, now you SCREEEAM (or nag) that the men can stay at home and the women enter into the work-force. This is not as wise as it sounds. Most men do not have the patience to undertake this task. Also, as D.J. points out, men have too much pride. I agree with this, however, you should not look at this as a fault. A man was designed for manly things, not womanly things. If he does womanly things, he does not feel like a man.

Why do almost all girls play with dolls and dream of the "American Dream" while they are young? Already at an early age they dream of having a child of their own someday. These are their natural tendencies and instincts. This is before they are fed the crap that they need to be a dominating woman making big bucks to prove a shallow point.

Don't women understand it's perfectly normal to perform your roles as care-takers and abnormal to play the role of the provider? I'm not saying you shouldn't obtain jobs, but if it's not necessary then don't feel you have let the women of America down by staying at home. By performing your roles, you benefit yourself, your family, and all of society.

Donna Jean states that "Men are not capable of properly handling the world." I beg to differ. Our world is very much a fast-paced and aggressive one, and if you don't adapt quickly, you're already run over. Men are in the elite offices of rulers, Popes, and other figure-heads for this very reason. They don't spend hours in a card store looking for the perfect card. They buy the economical one that gets the point across. How would a woman handle herself in the most powerful office in the world as the President of the United States of America? Probably the first thing she would do is cut the defense spending to pennies. I don't agree with how much is spent year after year, however our country's well-being thrives on it. Why do you

think we can actually keep such an enormous deficit to other countries while our currency weakens? Not because of some of the "well-thought-out" programs that had to be minimized. Another reason we need such a defense is because America has its role to play as "Protector of Democracy". I'm willing to bet Bill Clinton doesn't even agree with sending troops to Bosnia, but he recognizes it as his duty. America is playing its role just as man is playing his, so why can't you women play yours?

"Women are the thinkers of society" and I totally agree. We men do not feel your thoughts are unworthy of recognition. Women have excellent ideas that are for the well-being of everyone. However the problem here is that these ideas juxtapose along the lines more as dreams. It's not that men don't pay attention to your thoughts, it's just that we put the thoughts into perspective. The defense spending dilemma is just a classic example.

Feminists should quit whining about not being able to acquire supreme jobs in our government and other offices. Need I remind you that we live in a democracy?!

If you want a woman as President, then vote her in. Don't whine about it and feel as if your voice won't be heard. Many men like myself would support a woman 100% as President as long as she adequately performed the Presidential responsibilities.

Bringing up the issue on key locks is a serious St. Joseph's matter. I don't know one male who wants the key locks. The reason administration does is probably a precaution so cases such as the "grappler" won't happen again, and they won't be faced with a lawsuit. Now they complain that guys should have them in their dorms as well, bla bla bla. Imagine a girl running naked through Seifert. I don't think the guys would cry for help, do you?

To sum everything up, I agree that men and women should listen to one another and correspond rather than fight. Women should think things out and the men should do it. The only way to do this, I'm afraid, is to carry out what you were designed for. Women are the care-takers of society. Without their important role, neither male or female can co-exist properly.

Students speak out
by Peggy McLeish and
Vanessa Mangiaforte

On the theme of Battle of the Sexes, we asked questions of various students at Saint Joseph's. The questions presented were: Who do you feel is more fit to be "in charge", males or females? Who do you feel is "in charge", males or females? The students responded to these questions in the following comments:

"I believe that both are suited to be in charge. Men and women are both good at making decisions and negotiating. I believe that more men than women are in charge." —Jennifer Oliver

"Men are better suited to be in charge because they have balls. It seems to me that most women are in charge in relationships but men still rule society." —David Raeuchle

"Although it is obvious by looking at our President, Congress, etc., that all people are being controlled by men, I think that women and men should unite and take charge equally. If they did, maybe the government wouldn't have had to shut down!" —Cindy Aubuchon

"I think it depends on the situation on who is better suited to be in charge. I think anyone who is strong enough and willing to be a leader would be suited best to be in charge. [As to who is "in charge"] Well, I know that in my household, my mother is in charge of grocery shopping and housework stuff, while my father is in charge of the cars, yardwork, and other stuff like this. They divide up most of the work equally so I don't think that one person can claim that they are in charge." —Jennifer Dunbar

Our words:

We feel men have too large of a role in power positions today. However, women are gaining recognition as the years go by. Ideally, both sexes should play equal roles in the control and development of society. This is how the world would best be run, without disregard or disrespect to either gender.

Fr. Froelich and Joshua Northup plan trip to Tanzania

by William Shannon

Missionaries. This word conjures up images of men like Juniperro Serra and Father Jacques Marquette, who went into the wilderness to bring Christianity and European culture to the indigenous peoples of Africa and the Americas. But these images, along with the idea of the missionary Church, are often seen in the distant past.

The missionary spirit of the Church, having been refocused from the Age of Discovery, is alive and kicking in today's world; a troubled world that needs greatly the messages of hope and peace that the Catholic Church preaches.

Two members of our own community are preparing to set out on a missionary journey of their own. Father James Froelich and Sophomore Joshua Northup will leave for Tanzania on the twenty-eighth of December. Their destination: Saint Gaspar College in Dodoma, Tanzania. Saint Gaspar College is also run by the Society of the Precious Blood.

It is a seminary where students preparing for the priesthood learn theology and philosophy. Father Froelich will be teaching theology and philosophy, and Joshua Northup will be taking classes and doing research for independent projects.

The opportunity for this trip came from Dr. and Mrs. Kreilkamp. Dr. Kreilkamp, who was a faculty member at Saint Joseph's, taught at Saint Gaspar's with his wife for a year.

"When they came back, they asked me if I would go over there to teach," said Father Froelich. In talking of his trip, Father Froelich wondered if any students would like to accompany him. Joshua Northup said that he would be interested in going to Tanzania as well.

This active involvement in the missionary Church leads to the question "What is the state of the 'Missionary Spirit' in the Church? Is it on its last legs? Father Froelich said no, because the focus of the missions has been changed. In the days of Serra and Marquette, the object was to teach the ignorant local peoples the way to be saved. The missionaries were also often hooked to one of the large European colonial powers of the day, such as Spain or France. Therefore, there was a push amongst the missionaries to set up a European-styled culture in every locale. "Colonialism brought some good things to people and places. Unfortunately, it also often brought with it the destruction of native cultures," Froelich said. "Now the focus is not on cultural change, but on having people embrace Christ into their own cultures."

Joshua Northup also speaks to the vivacity of the Church and its missions. He says that "through groups like the Peace Corps...we can enhance the well-being of people in different places in the world." He adds that "We can and will make a difference in people's lives."



photo by Rachel Hempel

The Zimmer Reviews

reviewing cool music now."



by Brian Zimmer

It is a very rare occasion indeed when I don't have much to say; this is one of them! So why don't we gleefully jump head first into some reviews of music!

Rocket From the Crypt "Scream, Dracula, Scream" Now that we have it finally at WPUM I can say this: Rocket From the Crypt rules the earth! This album is a follow-up to their '93 release, "Circa: Now."

That album, along with Stone Temple Pilot's "Core" was supposed to put San Diego on the map as the next Seattle. It didn't do that, but what it did for Rocket From the Crypt was establish them as one of the more innovative and better sounding groups of the time.

On "Scream, Dracula, Scream" Rocket...keeps chugging along making great sense of a sound that has been horribly distorted by every other band. The lyrics are groovy and the guitar mixes different styles and influences making each song unique. Some songs sound like they were written by the Beatles (before George learned to play guitar) others move to a Ska style tune, still others thrash and grind away like they want to visit your mom and give her a good smack!

Most importantly for me is the fact that Rocket...includes horns in their songs, much like the Mighty Mighty Bosstones do. Also making this album worthwhile is the fact that the vocals and harmonizing are well placed and even better sounding. Although the record label made them cut a lot of stuff out of "Scream, Dracula, Scream," Rocket From the Crypt still has itself a fine album. I give this one 8 new vampire movies (all released since 1992) and 2 of something else.

G. Love & Special Sauce "Coast to Coast Motel" Those of you out there who like to judge your music by the name of the artist are probably either saying, "Oh damn, its rap, it sucks" or "Alright, the Z-man is

"Coast to Coast Motel" is a great album to just sit back and listen to when you're not in the mood for slow love songs. I give this album 7 funky beats and 8 people who won't listen to them because they think its to close to rap or something else.

Indigo Girls "1200 Curfews" To be perfectly honest, as always, I have never really been a big fan of the Indigo Girls. It has just been a case of not being able to relate to anything they sing about. That's o.k. though because millions of other people love this folk duo. If you are one of those millions of people, this album is for you. "1200 Curfews" features 26 live tracks and 1 studio track, "Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee." The sound is first-rate, the progression of songs is good, and the album also features a soundbite or two from Amy and Emily. The live cuts feature the girls chatting with the audience which makes you, the listener, feel like this album was made for those of you who want the whole live experience. Although the package this 2 cd set comes in is a pain to handle, the rest of it gets 7 college girls who swear the Indigo Girls sing for them and 6 guys (like me) who don't have a clue what their about.

Don't forget to Pick up No Doubt's "Tragic Kingdom" and Starfishes "Stellar Sonic Solutions."

Women's basketball team aims for a winning season

by Kevin Collins

Basketball season has started once again. The Lady Pumas polished up their guns and started shooting down their opponents on November 25th as they handed the Bulldogs of Northeast Missouri State an 82-75 defeat, giving NEMO the privilege of being the first notch carved into the Pumas' gun as the ladies strive to blast their way to another conference championship.

Along with the experience of their returning players, the Pumas have an abundance of new talent on the team this year. These newcomers include freshmen Shanna Miller, Carol Potts, Kelly Fink, Jill Orzechoskie, and junior transfer Tami Pottinger. With this much talent on the team this year it is easy to expect great things from the 1995-96 Lady Pumas.

The Pumas had the experience of three returning players and one newcomer leading the way in their season-opening victory over NEMO. Sophomore Jessica Henry logged several minutes filling the point guard position. She finished the game with three steals and fifteen points.

The senior Mindys, Mindy Laffoon and Mindy Metzger, put in their usual stellar performance with three steals and seventeen points each.

Pulling the top performance of the evening was Tami Pottinger with five

steals and twenty-two points.

These ladies did not

everyone saw some action.

With one win under their belts the ladies could focus on notch number two, which they did, on Tuesday, November 27th when they hosted IUPU-Indianapolis.

The Pumas handed IUPUI an 82-78 overtime defeat under the leadership of Tami Pottinger, who once again had another twenty-two point performance. She was backed up by Jessica Henry with four

teen points and Mindy Laffoon with eleven points and four steals. Also making their presence known were junior center Heather Meyer and senior Deb Bartoszewicz. They each added nine points to the total and helped the team with strong defense.

On December 1, the team lost to Lake Superior 85-67 in the first round game of the Lady Bulldog Classic. The Pumas were led by Tami Pottinger with 13 points and Mindy Metzger with 12.

In the consolation round on Saturday, the Lady Pumas defeated West Virginia Wesleyan with a score of 97-68.

Tami Pottinger was selected to the All-Tournament team. She led the team with 18 points and 8 rebounds. Mindy Metzger contributed 12 points and Mindy Laffoon had 11. The team's record stands at 3-1.



photo by Rachel Hempel

Junior Tami Pottinger and sophomore Tammie Williams reach for a rebound against IUPUI-Indianapolis.

Athletic trainers work hard behind the scenes

By John Osborne

They are perhaps the greatest example of the unsung hero in the world of sports. They are the ones who get players ready for practice, listen to them whine about injuries, wait on them hand and foot during practice and games, and then in a seconds notice have to be ready to race onto the court or field and make what is sometimes a decision that could effect a player's athletic career.

All of this responsibility and more is placed upon the shoulders of athletic trainers. Maybe it is the athletes and the coaches themselves that get the attention and the credit, but without the trainer who keeps the players healthy so they can do their job, how far could they or their coach really go?

It's an interesting

question, and one that is not often addressed. Athletic trainers are possibly the hardest working men and women in sports and, ironically, one of the least recognized. The fans see them sit on the bench or stand on the sidelines during games taping people up or carrying off the injured, but most of the time they don't realize or understand what a vital service they perform or what little recognition trainers receive.

As Head Athletic Trainer Shawn Comer and I sat down to discuss his job and his life here at Saint Joseph's, I asked him for his take on this situation and his response was very simple without a trace of bitterness or resentment.

"It's a lot of hard work and not a lot of limelight," the thirty year-old Comer said.

"With our profession we're a behind-the-scenes group. At a small college like Saint Joseph's we're fairly noticeable, but on a national level not so much."

This response is not surprising coming from Comer, who handles the administrative duties of his department, recruits student trainers, and manages to teach a physical education class in addition to his job overseeing the medical aspects of sports.

In talking to him, it was obvious that the Detroit native has a true and deep love for what he does and it

is that, more than anything else, that drives him.

"Coming out of high school I wanted to be associated with medicine, but not as a doctor," Comer said.



photo by Rachel Hempel

Trainers Shawn Comer and Troy Hershman keep SJC athletes healthy.

"When I took a class in this [in college] I was hooked. It's a very enjoyable relationship I have with the players. Unfortunately, usually when they see me they are hurt, but

I have an open door policy and help is always available. It's satisfying to see someone who has been hurt performing well."

To help lighten his workload, Comer has secured the services of Assistant Trainer Troy Hershman and approximately eight student trainers. Hershman worked with the men's and women's soccer teams this fall and can currently be seen on the bench with the Lady Pumas during their basketball games. Comer is quick to point out that without Hershman his job would be much more stressful.

"He (Hershman) takes some weight off my shoulders," Comer said. "He does a great job and has a great relationship with the athletes and the coaching staff."

See "Trainers"- page 7

Pumas lose heartbreaker to St. Francis

by Skip Malaski

On Saturday, December 2, the Saint Joseph's Varsity basketball team lost a heartbreaker to Saint Francis of Fort Wayne. The final score was 65-64 in a battle between two of Indiana's smaller Catholic institutions.

The one-point loss cannot be blamed on the game-ending sequence of events. The Pumas came out flat in the first half, missing many key jumpers. St. Francis took advantages of those misses and went hard to the basket, drawing many fouls. St. Francis led by four

"Trainers" continued

It seems that athletes these days are constantly under fire from the media and other students. They are accused of academic fraud, of getting away with crimes because of their athletic achievements, and of being arrogant jerks who don't belong in an academic institution. In working with the various athletes in their various sports and seeing them hurting at their worst, Comer gets to know a side of them that not everybody else sees. He feels this stereotype is not only wrong, but unfair.

"I think it gets blown out of proportion," Comer said. "They (student-athletes) have a lot of responsibility. Not only class, but practice, travel, games, and social life are a big burden for young shoulders. It's hard to balance all aspects."

In the three years Shawn Comer has been at Saint Joseph's he has never failed to make a positive impact on the athletic department or the school, and according to Comer he is not done yet.

"It's a matter of how we progress, but there is still a lot I want to accomplish here," he said.

points at halftime.

In the second half, the Pumas changed the game plan and went hard to the basket. A quick run tied the score and gave the Pumas the lead.

The lead changed hands several times until the last minute of play. The Pumas missed some key shots down the stretch, and the victory went to Saint Francis.

Kevin Denson led the Pumas with twenty-two points and ten rebounds. His slashing moves to the basket helped open the floor for himself and his teammates.

Walter Perkins

chipped in eleven points but had to leave the game late in the second half due to an injury.

The loss takes the Pumas to a 1-2 record. The Pumas won at Ferris State and lost to Saint Francis of Illinois early on in the season.

Senior Chad Pulver was frustrated with the loss, but was still optimistic. "We need to go to the hole early and establish the tempo of the game. Then we'll be alright."

The Pumas will face Purdue University-Calumet on Thursday, December 7.

Top Ten Winter Sports at Saint Joseph's College

by Elizabeth Lieb

As winter approaches, students here on campus tend to stay in their rooms rather than venture out into the cold. Here is a list of activities that are sure to keep you busy during the long, dark winter months.

10. Ice fishing on Lake Banet. Don't forget your permit!
9. Speed skating on the reflecting pond. Here's your chance to break some world records.
8. Snow angels- there's plenty of room on the I.M. field.
7. Luge on the frozen sidewalks from Justin to Halleck. Cuts down on the long, cold walk to the cafe.
6. Toboggan down the ditch near the soccer field. Be very careful.
5. Curling on the sidewalks. Try the new ones in front of the Core Building.
4. Cross country skiing through the cornfields. Make sure to keep your back to the wind.
3. Snowball fights. This should be an official I.M. sport.
2. Downhill skiing on the steps outside Halleck. Try not to hit the Security truck.
1. Bobsledding down the Chapel stairs. Watch out for the priests.

Puma Basketball Update:

On Tuesday, December 5, the men's basketball team defeated Indiana Wesleyan College by a score of 65-63. The final basket was made at the buzzer by sophomore Chad Patterson.

Congratulations to:

1995 All-Midwest Intercollegiate Football

Conference Team:

-Junior linebacker Zac Wells: 2nd Team

-Senior offensive lineman Mark Lovrich and sophomore fullback Jamon Buggs: Honorable Mention

Division II Women's Soccer All-Central Region Team:

-Senior defender Allison McDonough

-Junior goalkeeper Denise Hutchinson

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Coconut Joe's offers Monday Night Football, relaxation to busy students

by Elizabeth Lieb

On Monday, December 4, Core XI was opened to those under 21 for Coconut Joe's. The theme was Monday Night Football, as the Chicago Bears faced the Detroit Lions. Many students used this opportunity to take a break from studying and writing papers to spend some time with friends and cheer for their favorite team.

Members of ACES were bartenders for the evening, serving non-alcoholic drinks, including strawberry and raspberry daiquiris, lime margaritas, and pina coladas. A six-foot sub and other snacks were available for munching.

Many students kept their eyes glued to the TV screen for the Monday Night Football game. Detroit won the game by a score of 27-7. This was the fourth consecutive win for the Lions, moving their record to 7-6.

Herman Moore scored the first touchdown for

the Lions. He set a club record with 14 catches for a career-high 183 yards.

Scott Mitchell completed 26 out of 38 passes for a total of 320 yards. He connected with three of his teammates for touchdowns (Moore, Johnnie Morton, and Barry Sanders) resulting in a 21-0 lead at halftime.

Jason Hanson's two field goals added six points to the Lions' final score.

Members of ACES were happy with the way the event turned out. Even though there were several other activities happening on Monday evening, there was still a good turnout. Junior Terra Schaefer was a bartender for Coconut Joe's. She said, "It was good to see so many people there. I enjoyed being a bartender."

ACES has several upcoming events planned for next semester, including a Euchre tournament and another evening at Coconut Joe's.

Reflections of Faith



photo by Jen Palecek

by Faith Sievers

As the days grew shorter and the crowds in malls bigger, I began to speculate as to what Santa Claus might bring me this year.

My friend Mark said that there was no Santa Claus. Mark was always in trouble though. Since my father had told me that if you were bad Santa would give you a lump of coal and a switch, I figured that Mark had just been bad one too many times.

So I asked him if he ever got a lump of coal or a switch, but he didn't know what he would do with coal or what a switch was. I began to worry. Was there really a Santa Claus? There had to be. I had proof. We wrote letters to him when I was in kindergarten. You can't send mail to somebody who does not exist!

But, if Mark was wrong, I should be scared. I had just gotten in trouble for painting my brother's matchbox cars with nail polish. (I told him I owned a paint and body shop one day when we were playing, and since I'd gotten nail polish and he'd gotten cars from our grandparents, I wanted revenge.)

The days went by, and I got more and more apprehensive. Finally I decided that the only thing to do was to see Santa myself and explain everything to him. After all, that would ensure that I would get leggos or a motorized car instead of a Barbie Doll anyway. Yeah, that was a good plan.

The night before Christmas I lay in bed determined not to fall asleep. It was ten, and I felt sure that Santa would get to my house around midnight, seeing as he'd be coming from the north and would have the whole south side to do afterwards.

Those next few hours were the hardest I had ever put in. I was mad with sleep but afraid of losing a model train set or even worse, getting the coal and that other thing. I lay for a while making up things to say to Santa when he came.

When I had rehearsed them all and feared sleep was on its way, I crawled out of bed and woke my mom. She said it was silly to worry about not getting presents. Santa Claus gave presents to all the kids who did their best.

I decided that I had done my best. I'd only painted those cars pink. And it had come off with nail polish remover. I could have just hidden the cars or broken them. That is what I REALLY wanted to do. I just made them to look girly for a while instead to spite my brother. Maybe I had taught him a lesson!

With these thoughts comforting me, I crawled back in bed and went to sleep. The next morning I ran frantically to the tree. There were lots of presents, and it would be awful if they were all for my brother. I picked one up and it had MY name on it. I shook it. Inspected it. It sounded like bells. I didn't think coal made noise. "What's a switch, Mom?" I asked.

"A sort of whip, dear," She replied. "Who's been filling your head full of nonsense?" Dad giggled, but I was overjoyed. That was a good Christmas. Even girly stuff is better than nothing, especially whips and black rocks!

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

The following article originally appeared on the editorial page of the New York Sun on September 21, 1897 and was reprinted in the December 24 issues of the paper for many years.

We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of *The Sun*:

Dear Editor, I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says "If you see it in *The Sun* it's so." Please tell me the truth. Is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia O'Hanlon
115 West Ninety-fifth Street

VIRGINIA, Your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and

sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the

baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, not even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.



Photo by Jen Palecek

President "Skip" Shannon celebrates the holidays Saint Joe style. In a quiet moment of reflection, Santa Skip gives thanks for his blessings and prays that everyone at Saint Joseph's College has a very merry Christmas. Students eagerly await Skip and MJ's visits to the dorms dressed as Santa and Mrs. Claus and bringing cookies and candy for all of the good little boys and girls.